



February 27, 2023

To Members of the Appropriations Committee:

If you have a parent or a grandparent in a nursing home, you know what I'm about to say:
We need help!

The nursing home industry in Connecticut is on the verge of collapse. During the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic, employee heros of nursing homes put their lives on the line every day they came in to work. Some employees didn't make it...they gave their lives in order to care for elderly residents.

Since that time, many staff have left long term care at an alarming rate for less dangerous work, better working conditions and better pay. The average starting pay for a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in Connecticut is \$19.15 per hour.

We simply cannot sustain our work without higher wages for long term care staff who continue to be heros and perform important work.

"The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped." (Hubert Humphrey)

We all have a moral obligation to take care of the most vulnerable in our society. Please provide the funding to help us provide the level of care you want your parent or grandparent to receive. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ann E. Callahan'.

Ann E. Callahan, MS, LNHA
Administrator
Filosa for Nursing & Rehabilitation
13 Hakim Street
Danbury, CT 06810
203-744-3366 ext. 418
acallahan@filosa.com